AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) In a system that includes one or more nodes each of which are connected with a central server that receives content including audio and video content from a broadcast source, and wherein the content is delivered to the one or more nodes by one or more feature applications, a method for distributing at least one of the one or more feature applications across at least one of the one or more nodes and the central server, the method comprising:

loading a node application at one of the one or more nodes, wherein the node application was requested by the node from the central server;

selecting one of the one or more feature applications for distribution across the node and the central server which receives audio and video content from the broadcast source, wherein the feature application comprises a user interface portion and a process portion;

dynamically allocating, by the node application, resources between the node and the central server, including resources for presenting to a user the audio and video content received by the central server from the broadcast source;

loading the user interface portion of the feature application at the node by the node application, wherein the user interface portion communicates with a process portion of the feature application that is loaded on the central server;

making a request, by the user interface portion, to the process portion for data;

receiving processed data from the process portion, wherein the received processed data was processed by the process portion in response to the request made by the user interface portion; and

presenting the processed data at the node.

2.   (Currently Amended) A method as defined in claim 1, further comprising the node application:

loading additional user interface portions of additional feature applications; and

~~allocating resources of the node between the user interface portions of the feature~~

~~applications that are loaded on the node~~.

3.   (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein selecting the feature application further comprises receiving user input.

4.   (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein loading a node application further comprises:

displaying a preliminary user interface at the node;

requesting a current time and a current date from the central server;

requesting user-independent preferences for the node;

requesting an initial user interface; and

displaying the initial user interface at the node, wherein the feature application is launched from the initial user interface.

5.   (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein making a request, by the user interface portion, to the process portion for data further comprises making a remote procedure call using a protocol.

6.   (Original) A method as defined in claim 5, wherein the protocol is one of COM, DCOM and SOAP.

7.   (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein presenting the processed data at the node further comprises constructing a user interface using standards provided by the node application.

8.   (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 7, wherein constructing a user interface further comprises:

creating an XHTML representation of the user interface;

generating one or more placeholder areas within the XHTML;

describing the presentation and layout of the user interface; and

using a behavior to control creation of dynamic content.

9.   (Currently Amended) In a system that includes one or more nodes each of which are connected with a central server that receives content including audio and video content from a broadcast source, and wherein the content is delivered to the one or more nodes by one or more feature applications, a computer program product for implementing a method for distributing at least one of the one or more feature applications across at least one of the one or more nodes and the central server, the computer program product comprising:

a computer readable storage medium having encoded thereon computer executable instructions for performing the method, the method comprising:

loading a node application at one of the one or more nodes, wherein the node application was requested by the node from the central server;

selecting one of the one or more feature applications for distribution across the node and the central server that receives audio and video content from a broadcast source, wherein the feature application comprises a user interface portion and a process portion;

dynamically allocating, by the node application, resources between the node and the central server, including resources for presenting to a user the audio and video content received by the central server from the broadcast source;

loading the user interface portion of the feature application at the node by the node application, wherein the user interface portion communicates with a process portion of the feature application that is loaded on the central server;

making a request, by the user interface portion, to the process portion for data;

receiving processed data from the process portion, wherein the received processed data was processed by the process portion in response to the request made by the user interface portion; and

presenting the processed data at the node.

10.   (Currently Amended) A computer program product as defined in claim 9, further comprising the node application:

loading additional user interface portions of additional feature applications; and

~~allocating resources of the node between the user interface portions of the feature applications that are loaded on the node~~.

11.   (Original) A computer program product as defined in claim 9, wherein selecting the feature application further comprises receiving user input.

12.   (Original) A computer program product as defined in claim 9, wherein loading a node application further comprises:

displaying a preliminary user interface at the node;

requesting a current time and a current date from the central server;

requesting user-independent preferences for the node;

requesting an initial user interface; and

displaying the initial user interface at the node, wherein the feature application is launched from the initial user interface.

13.   (Original) A computer program product as defined in claim 9, wherein making a request, by the user interface portion, to the process portion for data further comprises making a remote procedure call using a protocol.

14.   (Original) A computer program product as defined in claim 13, wherein the protocol is one of COM, DCOM and SOAP.

15.   (Original) A computer program product as defined in claim 9, wherein presenting the processed data at the node further comprises constructing a user interface using standards provided by the node application.

16.   (Original) A computer program product as defined in claim 15, wherein constructing a user interface further comprises:

        creating an XHTML representation of the user interface;

        generating one or more placeholder areas within the XHTML;

        describing the presentation and layout of the user interface; and

        using a behavior to control creation of dynamic content.

17.   (Currently Amended) In a system that includes one or more nodes each of which are connected with a central server that receives content including audio and video content from a broadcast source, and wherein the content is delivered to the one or more nodes by one or more feature applications, a method for distributing one of the one or more feature applications across one of the one or more nodes and the central server, the method comprising:

receiving at the central server a request for a node application from a node;

sending the node application to the node, wherein the node application is retrieved from a remote server over a network if the node application for the node is not stored on the central server;

receiving at the central server a request for one of the one or more feature applications;

delivering a user interface portion of the requested feature application to the node, wherein a process portion of the feature application is executed on the central server, and wherein the process portion is executed on the central server to dynamically allocate resources between the node and the central server, including resources for presenting to a user the audio and video content received by the central server from the broadcast source;

receiving one or more requests for data from the user interface portion;

in response to each request for data, processing each data request from the user interface portion by the process portion of the feature application accessing the requested data, wherein the process portion utilizes resources of the central server to process each request; and

providing the user interface portion with results of each request, wherein the user interface portion presents the results to the user, and wherein the results are content received by the central server from a broadcast source providing audio and video content.

18.   (Original) A method as defined in claim 17, wherein sending the node application further comprises sending an initial user interface to the node.

19.   (Original) A method as defined in claim 17, wherein processing each request from the user interface portion further comprises formatting the results of each request using a standard.

20.   (Original) A method as defined in claim 17, wherein providing the user interface portion with results of each request further comprises delivering the results using a protocol.

21.   (Original) A method as defined in claim 20, wherein the protocol is a remote procedure call.

22.   (Original) A method as defined in claim 17, wherein processing each request from the user interface portion further comprises accessing content stored on the server or on a remote server.

23.   (Original) A method as defined in claim 17, further comprising recording content, wherein the content comprises a television program that is received over the satellite system or the cable system.

24.   (Original) A method as defined in claim 17, further comprising implementing the node application on the central server such that a user can select the feature application from the central server.

25.   (Currently Amended) In a system that includes one or more nodes each of which are connected with a central server that receives content including audio and video content from a broadcast source, and wherein the content is delivered to the one or more nodes by one or more feature applications, a computer program product for implementing a method for distributing at least one of the one or more feature applications across at least one of the one or more nodes and the central server, the computer program product comprising:

a computer readable storage medium having encoded thereon computer executable instructions for performing the method, the method comprising:

receiving a request for a node application from one of the one or more nodes;

sending the node application to the node, wherein the node application is retrieved from a remote server over a network if the node application for the node is not stored on the central server;

receiving a request for one of the one or more feature applications;

delivering a user interface portion of the feature application to the node, wherein a process portion of the feature application is executed on the central server, and wherein the process portion is executed on the central server to dynamically allocate resources between the node and the central server, including resources for presenting to a user the audio and video content received by the central server from the broadcast source;

receiving one or more requests for data from the user interface portion;

in response to each request for data, processing each data request from the user interface portion by the process portion of the feature application accessing the requested data, wherein the process portion utilizes resources of the central server to process each request; and

providing the user interface portion with results of each request, wherein the user interface portion presents the results to the user, and wherein the results are content received by the central server from a broadcast source providing audio and video content.

26.   (Original) A computer program product as defined in claim 25, wherein sending the node application further comprises sending an initial user interface to the node.

27.   (Original) A computer program product as defined in claim 25, wherein processing each request from the user interface portion further comprises formatting the results of each request using a standard.

28.   (Original) A computer program product as defined in claim 25, wherein providing the user interface portion with results of each request further comprises delivering the results using a protocol.

29.   (Original) A computer program product as defined in claim 28, wherein the protocol is a remote procedure call.

30.   (Original) A computer program product as defined in claim 25, wherein processing each request from the user interface portion further comprises accessing content stored on the server or on a remote server.

31.   (Original) A computer program product as defined in claim 25, further comprising recording content, wherein the content comprises a television program that is received over the satellite system or the cable system.

32.   (Original) A computer program product as defined in claim 25, further comprising implementing the node application on the central server such that a user can select the feature application from the central server.

33-38. (Cancelled)

39.   (Currently Amended) In a system that includes one or more nodes each of which are connected with a central server that receives content including audio and video content from a broadcast source, and wherein the content is delivered to the one or more nodes by one or more feature applications, a method for distributing at least one of the one or more feature applications across at least one of the one or more nodes and the central server, the method comprising:

loading a node application at one of the one or more nodes, wherein the node application was requested by the node from the central server;

selecting one of the one or more feature applications for distribution across the node and the central server which receives audio and video content from the broadcast source, wherein the feature application comprises a user interface portion and one or more service portions that are created by the user interface portion on either the node or the central server when data is needed;

dynamically allocating, by the node application, resources between the node and the central server, including resources for presenting to a user the audio and video content received by the central server from the broadcast source;

loading the user interface portion of the feature application at the node by the node application, wherein the user interface portion communicates with the one or more service portions;

making a request, by the user interface portion, to a particular service portion for data;

receiving processed data from the particular service portion, wherein the received processed data was processed by the particular service portion in response to the request made by the user interface portion; and

presenting the processed data at the node.

40.   (Currently Amended) A method as defined in claim 39, further comprising the node application:

loading additional user interface portions of additional feature applications; and

allocating resources of the node between the user interface portions of the feature applications that are loaded on the node.

41.   (Original) A method as defined in claim 39, wherein selecting the feature application further comprises receiving user input.

42.   (Original) A method as defined in claim 39, wherein loading a node application further comprises:

        displaying a preliminary user interface at the node;

        requesting a current time and a current date from the central server;

        requesting user-independent preferences for the node;

        requesting an initial user interface; and

        displaying the initial user interface at the node, wherein the feature application is launched from the initial user interface.

43.   (Original) A method as defined in claim 39, wherein making a request, by the user interface portion, to the particular service portion for data further comprises making a remote procedure call using a protocol.

44.   (Original) A method as defined in claim 43, wherein the protocol is one of COM, DCOM and SOAP.

45.   (Original) A method as defined in claim 39, wherein presenting the processed data at the node further comprises constructing a user interface using standards provided by the node application.

46.   (Original) A method as defined in claim 45, wherein constructing a user interface further comprises:

        creating an XHTML representation of the user interface;

        generating one or more placeholder areas within the XHTML;

        describing the presentation and layout of the user interface; and

        using a behavior to control creation of dynamic content.

47-51. (Cancelled)

52.   (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the central server acts as a gateway to a home network.

53.   (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the processed data is distributed to the one or more nodes through a single server.

54.   (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein selecting the feature application for distribution includes selecting the feature application using the node application requested from the central server.